

Message Text

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EYES ONLY FOR DALLEY AND HOLLOWAY

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: CG, XA, RH, PDEV

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF AFRICAN TRENDS

1) THERE FOLLOWS SUMMARY OF AFRICAN TRENDS PREPARED FOR
JUNE 21. THIS INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR YOUR BACKGROUND
ONLY.

2) ZAIRE
-- DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU. ON JUNE 20 AMBASSADOR CUTLER MADE
OUR DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU ON THE BASIS OF THE PARIS
MEMORANDUM. HE ALSO DELIVERED THE PRESIDENT'S JUNE 11
LETTER. MOBUTU:

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---EXPRESSED IRRITATION AT THE PUBLICITY BEING GIVEN THE
WESTERN DEMARCHES;
---REITERATED HIS THANKS FOR US HELP DURING THE SHABA 11
ATTACK;
---SAID HE WAS READY TO MOVE ON FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT
REFORMS AS SOON AS THE DONORS WERE;
---GAVE NO INDICATION THAT HE WOULD TAKE TO HEART OUR

PROPOSALS FOR RECONCILING SHABA WITH THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT;

---RECALLED HIS EARLIER ATTEMPTS TO REACH AN ACCOMMODATION WITH ANGOLA AND HINTED AT HIS READINESS TO TRY AGAIN THROUGH ZAMBIAN MEDIATION; AND

---PLEADED FOR A THREE-MONTH GRACE PERIOD AT THE END OF WHICH WE WOULD SEE THAT HE HAD MADE REAL PROGRESS.

MOBUTU BRISTLED AT THE ALLEGATIONS OF BRUTALITY AND CORRUPTION IN THE PRESIDENT'S LETTER, BUT ON THE WHOLE, ACCORDING TO CUTLER, "TOOK HIS MEDICINE PRETTY WELL."

-- PAN AFRICAN FORCE. THE MOROCCAN COMMANDER OF THE PEACEKEEPING FORCE DISPATCHED ABOUT 350-400 MOROCCAN AND TOGOLESE SOLDIERS TO LIKASI AND ABOUT 250 MOROCCANS TO KOLWEZI ON JUNE 17, ACCORDING TO CONSULATE LUBUMBASHI. THIS IS THE FIRST DEPLOYMENT OUTSIDE LUBUMBASHI.

-- BELGIAN FORCE. THE BELGIAN COMMANDER TOLD CONSULATE LUBUMBASHI THAT THE WITHDRAWAL OF BELGIAN TROOPS FROM THE SOUTH SHABA TOWNS WAS TO BEGIN ON JUNE 20. PLANS ARE FOR ALL TROOPS TO PULL BACK TO KAMINA BASE BY JUNE 23 AND TO RETURN TO BELGIUM BY JUNE 26.

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-- LOW-GRAHAM MISSION. GRAHAM EARLIER TOLD MUGABE THAT THE UK MIGHT ACCEPT FAIR ELECTIONS CONDUCTED BY THE SALISBURY REGIME. COMMENTING ON THIS, LOW SAID THAT:

---MUGABE'S EXPRESSION OF SURPRISE WAS DISINGENUOUS; THE BRITISH HAVE SAID THIS REPEATEDLY; IT IS THE FIFTH PRINCIPLE OF NIBMAR, AND THE US HAS NEVER TAKEN EXCEPTION TO IT;

---IN THE UNLIKELY EVENT FAIR ELECTIONS WERE HELD, MANY COUNTRIES, INCLUDING THE US, WOULD BE HARD PUT TO REJECT THE RESULTS; AND

---IF THE US SAYS THAT IT WILL ACCEPT NO SOLUTION OTHER THAN THE ANGLO-AMERICAN PLAN, THE PATRIOTIC FRONT WOULD BE LESS INCLINED TO COME TO A CONFERENCE OR ACCOMMODATE THE VIEWS OF THE INTERNAL GROUPS.

LOW CONCLUDES: "THE MOST WE HAVE SAID IS WE DON'T THINK (ELECTIONS) WILL WORK. BUT WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO SAY THAT. "WE WOULD RECOGNIZE THE RESULTS."

IN OTHER DISCUSSIONS, MOZAMBICAN PRESIDENTIAL AIDE VIEIRA APPEARED TO ACCEPT THE IDEA OF NON-PUBLIC,

WORKING-LEVEL TALKS UNDER US/UK AUSPICES, BUT TANZANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER MKAPA WAS INCLINED TO SUPPORT THE PATRIOTIC FRONT'S INSISTENCE ON A COMMITMENT TO A CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE BEFORE ENTERING PREPARATORY DISCUSSIONS.

NAMIBIA

-- VOTER REGISTRATION TO BEGIN JUNE 26. THE ADMINISTRATOR GENERAL ANNOUNCED IN THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE JUNE 20 THAT THE REGISTRATION OF VOTERS WILL BEGIN JUNE 26 AND CONTINUE UNTIL SEPTEMBER 22.

HORN OF AFRICA

-- DJIBOUTI-ADDIS ABABA RAILROAD. THE FRENCH EMBASSY IN
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DJIBOUTI HAS REPORTED THAT AN INSURGENT ATTACK ON JUNE 18 HAS AGAIN CLOSED THE LINE, A WEEK AFTER SERVICE WAS RESUMED. THE ATTACK OCCURRED WELL INSIDE SOMALI-INHABITED ETHIOPIAN TERRITORY. VANCE

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